



Strengthening the Government

Building Capacity in the Afghan Supreme Court

Afghanistan's justice system faces enormous challenges, and USAID is working in close cooperation with the Supreme Court and Ministry of Justice to strengthen the five major elements necessary for a recognized rule of law: legal framework, formal court system, qualified legal personnel, judicial buildings, and citizens who know and exercise their legal rights. In particular, significant progress has been made in working with and training the nine Supreme Court Judges. USAID has trained Supreme Court administrative staff and is upgrading records management which, among other things, will allow the Supreme Court to track the training needs of local-level judges. In January 2005, USAID worked with the Supreme Court to coordinate among donors to better plan and execute legal personnel training and to establish a training library.



Supreme Court administrative staff receive computer training

Creating Conditions for Stability: Expanding Educational Opportunity

As part of its overall objective to create conditions for stability, USAID is increasing access to education by training teachers, distributing supplies, and reconstructing schools. The Afghanistan Primary Education Program (APEP) provides accelerated education to over-age learners who were denied primary education during the Taliban era, as well as training for teachers through specialized courses at each grade level and nationwide radio-based teacher training broadcasts. APEP also prints textbooks for primary and secondary schools throughout Afghanistan.

As part of APEP's program, Master Trainers teach provincial counterparts who in turn train village teachers. This "cascade method" provides quality training at each grade level to 6,969 teachers of APEP's accelerated learning classes. On February 21st, approximately 150 of the Ministry of Education's Master Trainers completed training. Additional Master Trainer programs are being planned to meet the needs of the 30 teachers who were unable to reach Kabul due to the severe winter weather. Also, this reporting period, 422 additional students in Sari Pul Province enrolled in APEP's Accelerated Learning programs. These additional enrollments bring the overall figure to 170,268 – above the original target of 170,000 students.

To support the expansion of the education system, USAID is building schools - 137 schools have been constructed, and an additional 279 are underway. Record snowfall, however, has significantly slowed the rate of school construction.



Training of Master Teachers, who in turn train local teachers



Ambassador Zalmay Khalizad at the Opening Ceremony of the Bibi Khadija Central Girls' High School, Kunduz city

Infrastructure: Power

Rebuilding & Expanding Power Assets

Energy is necessary for sustainable economic growth and its demand rises roughly in step with economic growth in countries such as Afghanistan. Without energy, especially electricity, a nation has difficulty creating employment opportunities, supporting value-added industries, operating communications systems, providing potable and irrigation water, keeping vaccines cool, and expanding educational opportunities. USAID continues to enhance the Afghan power sector through provision of fuel and rehabilitation of hydro plants. Diesel fuel supplies provide for operations of the Northwest Kabul power facility, Kandahar emergency diesel station and Lashkar Gah emergency diesel supply. As diesel fuel is a primary source of power supply for Kabul and Kandahar during winter low hydro periods, an additional 8 million liters has been supplied (contract awarded January 2005.) Refurbishment of the Kajaki Hydroelectric Power Plant's two turbine units and construction of a new third unit began in December 2004. A work camp has been constructed and work on Unit 1 is underway.



Kajaki Hydroelectric Power Plant

Security Incidents

Note: Hostile attacks are reported through USAID's security contractors and the Associated Press

- **Number of Hostile Attacks:** During this reporting period, there were seven hostile attacks resulting in 19 injuries and three deaths.
- **USAID Related:** During this reporting period, there was only one hostile attack directly affecting USAID related projects and/or staff. There were six other attacks and threats against other aid agencies and NGOs.
- **Latest Attack:** On the night of March 7, Steve MacQueen, a Scottish national, was killed in Kabul near the UN guesthouse. The perpetrators managed to escape from the area in their vehicle. The motive behind the incident remains unknown. A police investigation is underway. The victim was driving a white Toyota pickup that was marked with Government of Afghanistan stickers and shown as donated by UNDP (United Nations Development Program).

MacQueen had been working as an advisor to the Afghan Government's Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD). He was working on a rural credit scheme, one of its aims being to reduce the dependence of farmers on growing opium.

